

CANADORE COLLEGE
OPERATIONAL POLICY MANUAL

TITLE: Research with Indigenous Peoples, Communities and Nations

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 12, 2018

1. SCOPE

1.1. Authority

This policy is issued under the authority of the President.

1.2. Application

This policy applies to all research conducted under the auspices or jurisdiction of Canadore College's Research Administration Policy (C-24) and Responsible Conduct of Research Policy (A-17) regardless of location, source of funds, or use of College resources when considering research that involves indigenous peoples.

1.3 In addition, researchers who apply for, or hold, tri-agency funding are required to adhere to the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research involving Indigenous Peoples and the principles of OCAP¹ (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession).

1.4 As per the Research Administration Policy, the authorized signatory for all research that involves research with Indigenous peoples, communities and nations will be the Vice President of Academic – the Research Grants Officer (RGO) for Canadore College.

2. PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

2.1. Purpose:

2.1.1. This policy guides research relationships involving Indigenous peoples and Canadore College. As such, the College has a commitment to support Indigenous peoples and learners in the development and delivery of education and training. The College recognizes that research is an integral part of education, training development, and assessment. The Indigenous research policy will ensure that research involving Indigenous peoples, communities and nations is premised on respectful relationships and ethical practices.

¹ The First Nations Principles of OCAP™ (ownership, control, access, and possession) means that First Nations control data collection processes in their communities. First Nations own, protect and control how their information is used. Access to First Nations' data is important and First Nations determine, under appropriate mandates and protocols, how access to external researchers is facilitated and respected (Assembly of First Nations, 2009).

2.1.2. This Policy is designed to serve as a framework for the ethical conduct of research involving Indigenous peoples. It is also a tool that will assist in the protection, safety and well-being of Indigenous peoples involved in research activities at, or in relation to, the College by facilitating culturally safe research practices.

2.1.3. This policy will assist in developing research partnerships and relationships that facilitate and encourage mutually beneficial and culturally safe research. The accompanying procedures promote ethical guidelines that enable and facilitate research involving Indigenous peoples, communities and nations.

2.2 Principles:

2.2.1 The College supports a framework for research with Indigenous peoples, communities and nations founded on the principles of respect, reciprocity, responsibility and rights of Indigenous peoples.

2.2.2 The College affirms that Indigenous Knowledges² (IK) are inextricably tied to worldviews that are shared through living, listening and learning in Indigenous languages and within the contexts of lands and place; and that Indigenous peoples are the owners of such Knowledges and, hence, are in positions to validate and make such claims to Indigenous Knowledges and the scholarship derived therefrom.

2.2.3 The College acknowledges and maintains the First Peoples' Centre as a center that can provide consultation and or leadership in cultural competency for applied research purposes involving Indigenous peoples, communities and nations.

2.2.4 Researchers must:

- a) Understand their duties of honest and thoughtful inquiry and adhere to all components contained in Canadore College's Research Administration Policy (C-24) and Responsible Conduct of Research policy (A-17);
- b) Demonstrate adherence to the ethical and professional principles of OCAP and the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research involving Indigenous Peoples; and
- c) Adhere to the guidelines contained in this policy.

² Indigenous Knowledges (IK) pluralized to reflect the diversity of knowledge held and shared amongst diverse Indigenous nations.

3. POLICY

3.1 This policy will be used by the College to develop and enhance mutually beneficial research relationships when conducting research that involves Indigenous peoples, communities and nations' in relation to their Ownership, Control, Access, Possession.

- a) Indigenous communities and peoples have relationships to cultural knowledges/data/information. An Indigenous community or group can own information collectively in the same way that an individual owns their personal information. The notion of ownership is different from stewardship.

Indigenous peoples and representative bodies are within their rights to inform and oversee all aspects of research and information management processes that affect them. This includes all stages of a particular research project from conception to completion. The principle extends to the control of resources and review processes, and the formulation of conceptual frameworks. Where there is no First Nations community or Indigenous organizational control, it is the responsibility of the First Peoples' Centre to ensure research involving Indigenous learners and peoples is ethical and respectful through the use of standardized, formal protocols for resources, review processes, and the formulation of conceptual frameworks.

- b) Indigenous peoples must have access to information and data about themselves and their communities, regardless of where it is currently held. Indigenous communities and organizations have the right to manage and make decisions regarding access to their collective information. This will be achieved through standardized, formal protocols. Where there is no First Nations community or Indigenous organizational control, it is the responsibility of the First Peoples' Centre to develop a standardized, formal protocol defining access to research information and data management activities and relationships.
- c) Possession defines the stewardship or care-taking of data or information by an institution that is accountable to the group and is a mechanism through which ownership will be asserted and protected.

3.2 Indigenous peoples are the guardians and interpreters of their culture, traditions and knowledge systems - past, present, and future.

3.3 Indigenous Knowledges / Traditional Knowledges, culture, languages and arts are inextricably connected with their traditional lands, districts and territories.

3.4 Indigenous peoples have the right and obligation to exercise control to protect their cultural and intellectual properties and knowledges.

- 3.5 Indigenous knowledges are collectively owned, discovered, used, implemented, and taught and so use and dissemination must be collectively approved through mechanisms identified by the Indigenous community.
- 3.6 Indigenous communities own their unique knowledges and have the right to control their own community knowledges and negotiate locally respecting levels of authority.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

4.1. President

The President is responsible for the overall management and operation of the College. The President ensures that the policy is implemented and that compliance is monitored.

4.2 Vice President, Academic

The Vice President, Academic is responsible for establishing and ensuring adherence to the research policies at the College, the effective implementation of this policy, maintaining authority as the RGO for all scholarship and research applications and approved initiatives, and to resolve any disputes arising over policy interpretation jointly with the Vice President, Enrolment Management, Indigenous and Student Services.

4.3. Vice President, Enrolment Management, Indigenous and Student Services

The Vice President, Enrolment Management, Indigenous and Student Services is responsible for the effective implementation of this policy, the establishment of culturally safe relationships among researchers and knowledge keepers, and to resolve any disputes arising over policy interpretation jointly with the Vice President, Academic.

5. EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed every three years.